K. Baptists, General Assembly
4

THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HELD ON

Wednesday, 15th June, 1791,

AT THE

BAPTIST MEETING-HOUSE,

IN

WORSHIP STREET,

NEAR

BISHOPS-GATE STREET,

LONDON:

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—1791.—

AFTER seeking divine Assistance by Prayer, the following MESSENGERS, ELDERS and REPRESENTATIVES being present, *viz.* Brothers *Eversbed*, *Boorman* and *Dobel*, Messengers.

Brother *Doble* was chose Chairman, and Brothers *Boorman* and *Philpot* Moderators,

CHURCHES.	ELDERS.	REPRESENTATIVES.	£.	s.	d.
Wojtes's Alley	Charles Bulkley.				
Horsly-down,	Joseph Brown,	John Jee and William Brent.	1	1	0
Glass-house yard,		John Treacher.	1	1	0
Bessels Green,	John Austin,		0	10	6
Cranbrook,	Benjamin Dobel	Creasy Unicum.	1	1	0
Ditcherling,		Charles Lloyd.	1	1	0
Wildron,			1	1	0
Berkhamstead,	Edward Sexton.		1	1	0
Hythe.					
Horsham,	Wm. Eversbed,	Thos. Billinghurst & Allen Brown.	1	1	0
Chatham,	Samuel Neale.				
Headcorn,	John Boorman,	Robert Buckhorn	1	1	0
Canterbury,		Copper Chapman.	1	1	0

Coggeshall.	Robert French				
Brentford.	John Barrat	0	10	6	
Smarden.	Joseph Seaton	0	10	6	
Farnham,	John Ellis.	0	10	6	
Dover,					
Wingham.					
Chichester.					
Portsmouth,	John Brent.	1	1	0	
Newport Isle.					
Deal.					
Millbourn,	Letter.	0	10	6	
Saffron Walden,	Stephen Philpot				
Ramsgate.	George Kingsford.				
Horley,	Thomas Turll.	0	10	6	
Burnham,					
Norwich.					
Ford & Aylesbury.					
Lincolnshire Association,					
Leicestershire Association,					
Mitcham,	John Marson.				

On auditing the Accounts they appear as under, *viz.*

Received with last Years Balance £36 6 10 — Paid £25 16 6 — Balance in Hand £10 10 4

THE Minutes of the Proceedings of the laſt Aſſembly were read and confirmed.——A Sermon was preached by Brother *Edward Sexton* from Eph. iii. 8.

The Report on 2d Article of laſt Year is —that the Church at *Fleet* in *Lincolnſhire* is provided for, but *Winſlow and Wickham* are ſtill vacant.

As to the caſe of *Waldron* Church we recommend again to the attention of Brothers *Boorman and Dobel.*

As to the 4th Article, Brother *Boorman* has viſited the Church at *Berkhamſted.*

As to the 5th Article, we again recommend, from the reports of the ſeveral Churches that have kept up conferences, &c. of the benefit ariſing therefrom, that the Churches in general be more attentive to this mode of Inſtruction and Edification.

We again recommend to all our Churches not to fail of making ſome Collection annually, for the General Baptiſt Fund, and requeſt that they will ſend an Account of what ſum is collected, on or before the 1ſt of *May* next, to Mr. LOWDELL, *Queen Street, Park, Southwark.* Several Churches having ſent Collections, we gratefully acknowledge the Receipt and hope others will follow their Example.

With reſpect to 7th Article we have the pleaſure to inform the Churches in general that the Church at *Burnley* have received very handſome Collections and returned their thanks to this Aſſembly.

As to the 9th Article, no perſon having offered his ſervice for the ſupply of vacant places, with reluctance we are obliged to drop the project for the preſent.

Brother

Brother *Birley* having declined the acceptance of the Education of Young Miniſters, the plan propoſed remains for further conſideration.

The Church at *Mitcham* in *Surrey*, of which Mr. *John Marſon* is Elder, having requeſted an Union with this Aſſembly have now been admitted.

A Letter being received from Brother *Boyce* reſpecting the purchaſe of a Tenement that is very convenient as a paſſage to the Meeting-Houſe and the River for a Baptiſtery, and there is wanting about £. 50 for that uſe, we recommend it to the Churches to aſſiſt them for that purpoſe by making Collections and ſending them to Mr. LOWDELL, No. 34, *Southwark Park*, on or before *January* next.

As to the Aſſembly continuing two days, we think a ſtrict attention to the time of Meeting, and a proper diſpatch of Buſineſs will cloſe the whole in one day.

Agreed that this Aſſembly do meet on *Wedneſday* in *Whitſun Week*, at the Meeting-Houſe in *Worſhip Street*, *Biſhops-gate Street*, in the Year 1792; and that Brother *John Auſtin* do preach, and on his default *Charles Lloyd*: and that the Meſſengers, Elders and Repreſentatives of the ſeveral Churches do meet at half paſt *Nine* preciſely to tranſact Buſineſs and that public Worſhip begin at *Eleven* o'Clock.

Agreed that the Aſſembly Book be depoſited in the Care of J. BROWN.

Signed on behalf of the whole,

Benjamin Dobel—Chairman.

John Boarman & Stephen Philpot—Moderators.

A LETTER, &c.

Dearly Beloved Brethren,

AS we are once more assembled, to consider the state of our blessed Redeemer's interest, and to consult the best means of promoting it, particularly that part of it with which we are most intimately concerned; accept, as an expression of our regard for your spiritual and everlasting welfare, a few words of exhortation.

1st. We exhort you to keep it continually in mind that you are Inhabitants of an ensnaring polluting world; that *the whole world lieth in wickedness*, 1. John v. 19. Its maxims and customs are, in many instances, directly opposite to the will of God; and their tendency is to pollute and carnalize the heart of man. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, the Apostle assures us, are not of the Father, but of the world 1 John ii, 15. By these words, he intimates, in a most striking manner, the opposition which subsists between the world, and that God whom you profess to believe, and are under every obligation to serve with all your might; nor can you be too sensible of this opposition. Think much of it, remind one another of it; and *be not conformed to this world.* Rom. xii, 2. It is your duty, your honour, and your happiness to keep yourselves unspotted from it. James i, 27. and to overcome it, by the power of a lively faith in the gospel of Christ. 1 John v, 4. Take care, Brethren, that your spirit and behaviour

behaviour continually demonſtrate, that though you are in the world, you are not *of the world*. John xvii, 14.

2d. Remember that the day of Judgment, and an awful Eternity are before you. If you were made for this life only, to trifle with God and divine things would be more excuſable, but as you are, every moment, probationers for Eternity, as every one of you muſt *give an account of himſelf to God*. Rom. xiv, 12. and as what you *ſow* in this world, you muſt *reap* in the next, Gal. vi, 7, it is of infinite conſequence, that you frequently *pauſe*, turn inward, and ſeriouſly aſk yourſelves, how will my conduct appear at the Tribunal of God? What ſhall I think of it ten thouſand Ages hence? If Heaven and Hell were of ſhort period, if they were of any *limited* duration, it would be of leſs importance whether we eſcape the one and obtain the other; but when we are informed by him who could not miſtake, that both are everlaſting; that, at the day of Judgment, the wicked *ſhall go away into everlaſting puniſhment, and the righteous into life eternal*, ſurely if any thing be important, it is of the laſt importance, that you all *eſcape the damnation of hell*; that you all *obtain the ſalvation which is in Chriſt Jeſus, with eternal glory*. 2 Tim. ii, 10. We earneſtly beſeech you never to loſe ſight of this great object. Amidſt all the cares and labours of life, let nothing divert you from it. Labour continually to *look, not at the things which are ſeen, but the things which are not ſeen*; for this ſolemn and ſtriking reaſon, *the things that are ſeen are temporal, but the things that are not ſeen are eternal*. 2 Cor. iv, 18.

3d. Remember that your only rule of faith and practice is *the word of God*. — This, in all circumſtances, ought to be regarded by you, as *a lamp to your feet, and a light to your path*, Pſalm cxix, 105. This *gives underſtanding to the ſimple*, and points out the way of life, and holineſs,

holineſs, to the weakeſt ſoul who ſincerely attends to the inſtructions which the Bible gives. Let this ſacred book therefore, be as your companion, and your familiar Friend. Make it the ſubject of your meditation day and night, Pſalm i, 2. and frequently lift up your hearts in prayer to God, the glorious Author of it, and the ſource of underſtanding, crying *Order my ſteps by thy word, and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.* Pſalm cxix, 133.

What reaſon have we to bleſs and praiſe the Lord for a book ſo plain, and ſo full of inſtruction on ſubjects which reſpect our everlaſting welfare! All the practical parts of it are ſo plain, that the moſt illiterate Reader, if he read with humble attention, and deſire to obey, will find it eaſy to be underſtood; and the inſtructions of it are ſo full, and ſo comprehenſive, that it gives directions in every ſtation and relation of life, and points out the various duties connected with every ſituation in which we are placed. Are you Magiſtrates or ſubjects, huſbands or wives, parents or children, maſters or ſervants, miniſters, deacons, or common members of churches, your duty is all plain before your eyes in the ſacred volume; — In a word, Brethren, attend with diligence, and an obedient diſpoſition to your Bible, and you cannot but find, by happy experience, that *it is profitable for inſtruction in righteouſneſs, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furniſhed to all good works.* 2 Tim. iii, 16, 17.

4th. If you are ſincerely deſirous to *walk humbly with your God*, and to *glorify his name*, by a holy converſation, you will frequently find that you ſtand in need of ſpiritual wiſdom and ſtrength. To be deeply ſenſible of this neceſſity is much to your advantage, nor ought you to be in the leaſt diſcouraged, whatever your weakneſs or neceſſities are. You have a kind Father always ready to ſupply

ply you; and you have abundant encouragement at all times, to *come boldly to the throne of grace*, and to draw near to him *in full assurance of faith*. You may and you ought to *ask in faith, nothing doubting*; most assuredly persuaded that in this way of humble believing prayer, he will *supply all your need, according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus*. Phil. iv, 19.

5th. Remember that your only way of access to God is through his Son Jesus Christ. *No man comes to the Father but by him*, John xiv, 6. He has laid down his life for your sins, and he *ever lives to make intercession for all them that come unto God by him*. He is therefore, able to save *them to the uttermost*, Heb. xiv, 25. *In him we have boldness and access with confidence by faith*, Ephe. ii, 12. If you keep up Communion with the Father, through the Son of his love, by prayer and supplication, you will be assisted and supported in all your trials, happy in every condition, eminent in every branch of holiness, and at last, die in peace and tranquility.

We earnestly beseech you, Brethren, to keep in mind these few things, a way of access to God is opened for you through the blood of Jesus Christ. Improve this glorious privilege, and *pray without ceasing*. The word of God is put into your hands, read it carefully; let it be the subject of your daily meditation, and frequently examine your tempers and lives by it. Realize the day of Judgment and an awful Eternity in your conduct. *Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God*. Thus, Brethren, we hope to see you with ourselves in due time, presented blameless, through the blessed Redeemer, before the throne of God, and to join with you in thanksgivings and

and praiſes to him who *hath loved us, and waſhed us from our ſins in his own blood, and hath made us Kings and Prieſts unto God and his Father.—To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

In behalf of the General Aſſembly,

D. TAYLOR.

Account

Account of the Receipts and Diſburſements of the Managers of the FUND for aſſiſting Miniſters and Students of the GENERAL BAPTIST Perſuaſion, from the 25th of *May*, 1790, to the 13th *June*, 1791,

Collected in LONDON.

By the Congregations in *Worſhip Street, Shoreditch* — — — — — —	15	0	6
By the Congregation in *Church Lane, White Chapel*, — — — — — —	28	17	6
By One Year's Dividend on the Funded Stock, — — — — — —	121	13	6

Collected by Churches in the Country, which came too late for Diſtribution laſt Year.

Melbourn, &c. by Thomas Barron —	1	1	0
Southwich by Thomas Twining — —	0	10	6
Mitcham by Mr. Dancey — —	0	10	6
Horſham by Mr. Everſhed — — —	4	0	0
By Mrs. Marlott & Miſs Foott, of Briſtol,	2	2	0
By W. Holybreads dividend retained —	3	0	0

Collected by Churches in the Country, 1791.

Aſterby, Lincolnſhire —	1	1	0
Boſton, Lincolnſhire ——	0	10	6
Burnley by Mr. Whitaker —	0	15	0
Chatham by Mr. Neal —	1	7	6
Cheſham and Berkhamſted by Mr. Sexton	1	1	0
Coningſby by Mr. Boyce —	0	10	6
Coggeſhall by Mr. French — —	0	10	6
Cranbrook by Mr. Dobel — —	2	13	6
Dicherling by Mr. Lloyd — —	2	5	0

Fleet	1	1	0
Goſberton	0	10	6
Guildford by Mr. Ellis	1	4	0
Horſham	4	0	0
Knipton,	0	15	0
Longwood by Mr. Booth	0	7	3
Maidſtone by Mr. Wiche	2	2	0
Melbourn by Mr. Barron	1	1	0
Monksthorp	1	6	0
Moreton Hampſted by Mr. Jacob Iſaac	1	1	0
Nutfield Surry by Mr. Sargent	0	5	0
Oxted Surry, by Mr. Palmer	1	2	6
Ramſgate, by Mr. G. Kingsford	0	10	0
Queenſhead by Mr. J. Taylor	1	1	0
Ruſhall, Wilts. by Mr. Freeman	0	3	4
Saffron Walden by Mr. Philpot	0	5	0
Staplehurſt by Mr. Dobel	1	8	0
Tetney, Lincolnſhire	0	10	6
Wadſworth by Mr. Sutcliff	1	1	0
	207	4	1

Seven Churches which came too late for Diſtribution this Year, viz.

Headcorn, and Smarden by Mr. Boorman	4	11	6
Wiſbeach by Mr. Freſton	1	19	7
Thetford by Mr. Goodrich	0	5	0
Caldwell by Mr. Norton	0	16	6
Chatteris by Mr. Scott	0	10	6
Southwich by Mr. Twining	0	10	6
Canterbury by Mr. S. Kingsford	6	2	4

DISBURSEMENTS.

Disbursements, &c.

June 13th 1791.

Expences at a Meeting of Managers —	0	19	6
Postage of Letters — — — —	0	3	0
Divided — — — — —	200	0	0

Among the following Ministers and Students.

Basset Anthony, Staplehurst
Boyce Gilbert, Coningsby, Lincolnshire.
Barron Thomas, Melbourn, Cambridge.
Bratley John, Tetney, Lincolnshire.
Booth John, Halifax.
Clark Lawrence, Monksthorp.
Dexter, Canterbury.
Ellis John, Guildford, Surry.
Freston Joseph, Wisbeach.
Fant Thomas, Gosberton, Lincolnshire.
Freeman Thomas, Rushall, Wiltshire.
French Robert, Coggeshall.
Goodrick George, Swaffham Norfolk.
Huddy David
Isaac Jacob, Moreton-Hamstead, Devon.
Isaac Daniel, Craigfayod, Wales.
Kingsford George, Ramsgate, Kent.
Kelsey William, Knipton, Leicestershire.
Neal Samuel, Chatham, Kent.
Norton Charles, Caldwell.
Philpot Stephen, Saffron Walden
Pickering Nathaniel, Castle Donington, Lincolnshire.
Prowit Edward, Newcastle.
Proud senr. Norwich.

Smith

Smith John, Ditcherling Suſſex.
Sturch John, Iſle of White.
Scott Joſeph, Chatteris, Cambridgeſhire.
Sutcliff John, Wadſworth.
Seaton Joſeph, Chatham & Smarden.
Sexton Edward Cheſham, Bucks.
Sargent David, Nutfield, Surry.
Taylor John, Queenſhead,
Thruſſel William, Berkhamſtead, Hertfordſhire.
Twining Thomas, Trowbridge, Wiltſhire.
Wade Thomas, Daventry.
Wright John, Aſterby, Lincolnſhire.
Wiche John, Maidſtone, Kent.
Young William, Bourn.

BOOK CASES.

Cope James, Farnham. — — 2d time
Dobel Jacob, Cranbrook. — — 3d time.
Dobel Joſeph, Cranbrook. — — 2d time.
Lloyd, Charles Ditcherling —— 2d time.
Pollard John, Swithland, — — 3d time.
Pickering Wm. Aſhford Derby — 2d time.
Truman Thomas, Kirby Woodhouſe 2d time.
Unicum Creaſey, Cranbrook. — 3d time.
Whitaker Edmund, Burnley— 2d time.
Wright Samuel, Spalding— 2d time.

N. B. The Society conſiſts of a Treaſurer and ſeveral other Truſtees, in whoſe names the Capital Fund ſtands in the Bank of England, and of ſuch Managers as are choſen Annually by the Congregations in *Worſhip Street, Shoreditch*, and in *Church Lane, White Chapel, London.*

Preſent Truſtees.

Present Truſtees. { Stephen Lowdell, *Southwark Park, Treaſurer.*
John Treacher, *Pater-Noſter Row.*
Wm. Sturch, *Stanhope Street, Clare Market.*
John Chatfield, *Clerkenwell.* }

*** Donations for this Charity, how ſmall ſo ever, will be gratefully accepted by the Truſtees

☞ Whoever is deſirous of benefiting this Deſign by their laſt Wills are deſired to do it in the following Manner, *viz.*

" I give and bequeathe out of my Perſonal Eſtate to the " Treaſurer for the Time being of the General Baptiſt " Fund in London, of which Stephen Lowdell of *South-* " *wark Park*, was Treaſurer in the Year 1787, the Sum of Pounds, for the Benefit of that Charity.

THE END.